

Message Text

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42

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-19 OMB-01 SAJ-01 SAB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 EUR-25 DRC-01 IO-14

/154 W

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P 080915Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY 1412

INFO ZEN/COMIDEASTFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA 0606

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : MARR, BA

SUBJECT: : STATEMENT OF BAHRAIN PRIME MINISTER ON MIDEASTFOR

1. CONSERVATIVE WEEKLY "AL-MAWQIF" ON AUG 5 REPRINTED AN INTERVIEW WITH BAHRAIN PRIME MINISTER CARRIED BY BEIRUT'S "AL-ANWAR" OF AUG. 2. "AL-ANWAR" QUOTES SHEIKH KHALIFA AS ANSWERING A QUESTION ON THE STATIONING AGREEMENT AS FOLLOWS: (UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION) WE HAVE FROZEN THE AMERICAN (STATIONING) AGREEMENT DURING THE OCTOBER WAR BY OUR OWN DECISION, NOT UNDER PRESSURE AS "AL-ANWAR" MENTIONED. HOWEVER, IT IS OUR DUTY TO RETREAT FOR THE GOOD OF THE PEOPLE, AND AMERICA'S ATTITUDE HAS CHANGED - AS EVIDENCED BY THE RESUMPTION OF RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. BY OUR BROTHERS WHO FOUGHT. WE HAVE GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE AMERICANS, AND THE AGREEMENT DOES NOT EFFECT BAHRAIN'S SOVEREIGNTY AS IT IS A NAVAL FACILITY. ARAB COUNTRIES HAVE SIMILAR AGREEMENTS WITH RUSSIA OR AMERICA, AND THEREFORE THE RENEWAL OR REIMPLEMENTATION IS A STRONG POSSIBILITY.

2. COMMENT: THIS IS ONLY PUBLIC STATEMENT BY GOB OFFICIAL ON STATIONING AGREEMENT THAT WE HAVE SEEN RECENTLY. IN NORMAL EMBASSY CONTACTS, WE HAVE NOT HEARD DISCUSSION OR

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EVEN MENTION OF ARTICLE. WE WILL BE WATCHING TO SEE IF

ARTICLE PICKED UP BY OTHER WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS WHICH HAVE
WIDER CIRCULATION.
STARRETT

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Message Attributes

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